

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:

Thomas Blomme et al.

Serial No: 09/701,349

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PCT/DE99/00918RF CONNECTOR WITH CUTTING
EDGES

Before the Examiner

Group Art Unit:

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Applicants hereby submit the prior art listed on the attached PTO Form 1449 in accordance with 37 CFR §1.97(b)(3), as the prior art is being submitted before the first Office Action. Copies of the cited items are enclosed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98. Additionally, each item submitted herewith was cited in the corresponding foreign search report for parent application PCT/DE99/00918.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b).

It is believed that no fee is required for consideration of the submitted items. Should any fee be required, however, please charge such fee to Deposit Account No. 02-0387, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on: January 31, 2001.

Michelle L. Watson
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Dated: January 31, 2001

Respectfully submitted,

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